Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2008-06

Imidacloprid

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Publications
Pest Management Regulatory Agency
Health Canada
2720 Riverside Drive
A.L. 6605C
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Internet: pmra_publications@hc-sc.gc.ca
www.pmra-arla.gc.ca
Facsimile: 613-736-3758
Information Service:
1-800-267-6315 or 613-736-3799
pmra_infoserv@hc-sc.gc.ca

Canada

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Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act* (PCPA), has concluded that the addition of new uses to the label of Admire 240 Flowable Systemic Insecticide, containing technical grade imidacloprid, for the suppression or control of aphids, whiteflies, leafhoppers, caneborers and white grubs on caneberries (Crop Subgroup 13A, see Appendix I), is acceptable. The specific uses that were approved in Canada are detailed on the Admire 240 Flowable Systemic Insecticide label (PCPA Registration Number 24094).

The evaluation of this imidacloprid application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and that the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available on the PMRA website, under Public Registry, Product Information, Current Applications.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not pose an unacceptable health risk. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Currently, MRLs are legally established under the Food and Drug Regulations (FDR) after consultation through the *Canada Gazette*. Amendments to the *Food and Drugs Act* (FDA) via Bill C-28, anticipated to come into force in 2008, will allow pesticide MRLs to be legally established under the PCPA without having to adopt MRLs by regulation under the FDA. This will result in a more efficient means of establishing, revising and revoking pesticide MRLs.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for imidacloprid is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps). This action is being taken in advance of Bill C-28 coming into force to allow the MRLs to be legally established as soon as possible after the FDA is amended.

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[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Programs and Special Actions/Minor Use/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2007-4575.

The proposed MRLs for imidacloprid in Canada in or on food, to be added to those already legally established, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Imidacloprid

Common Chemical Name	Chemical Name of Substance	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodities
Imidacloprid	1-[(6-chloro-3-pyridinyl)methyl]-*N*-nitro-2-imidazolidinimine, including metabolites containing the 6-chloropicolyl moiety[2]	2.5	Blackberries, loganberries, raspberries, wild raspberries

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found in Table II, Division 15 of the FDR. Once the amendments to the FDA via Bill C-28 are in force, the list of legally established Canadian MRLs will be available on the PMRA's MRL webpage, which will be updated to include the MRLs listed in this document in addition to the corrected chemical name.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The proposed MRLs in Canada are the same as the corresponding tolerance for the caneberry subgroup established in the United States (listed in 40 CFR Part 180 by pesticide). Currently, there are no Codex MRLs[3] established for imidacloprid on caneberries (Codex MRLs searchable by pesticide or commodity).

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for imidacloprid up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs for imidacloprid and posting an Established Maximum Residue Limit (EMRL) document on the PMRA's website once the amendments to the FDA are in force.

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2 The chemical name for imidacloprid is currently captured in Table II, Division 15 of the FDR as "1-[(6-chloro-3-pyridinyl)methyl]-4,5-dihydro-*N*-nitro-1*H*-imidazol-2-amine". This is to be revised after amendments to the FDA via Bill C-28 are in force to reflect Chemical Abstracts Service nomenclature in accordance with Table 1 above.

3 Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Crop Groups: Numbers and Definitions

Crop Group Number	Name of the Crop Group	Food Commodities Included in the Crop Group
13A	Berry group Caneberry subgroup	Blackberries Loganberries Raspberries (red and black) Wild raspberries Cultivars and hybrids of the above